Cryospheric Applications of Landsat-8



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Twila Moon, Bristol Univ., UK

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Greenland Off-nadir – northernmost land

Requester: Gene

Request category: Emergency Name of request: arctic offender

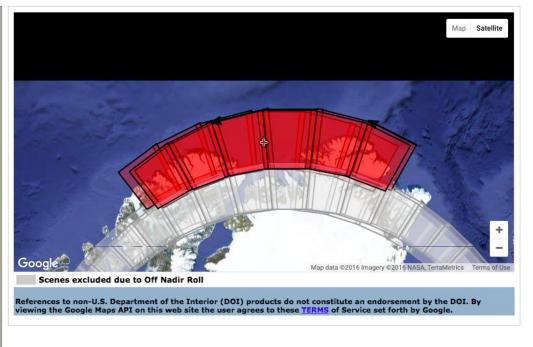
Acquisition: Day Start Date: 07/12/2016 End Date: 08/28/2016 Justification: Greenland and Ellesmere not imageable at nadir

Solar Angle Override: Yes Number of Rows: 6

Point Entered: Latitude: 83.37601, Longitude: -56.67023

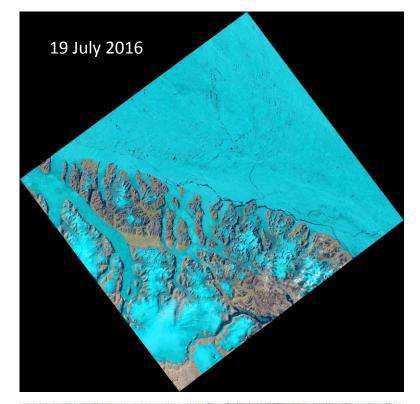
Review and Edit

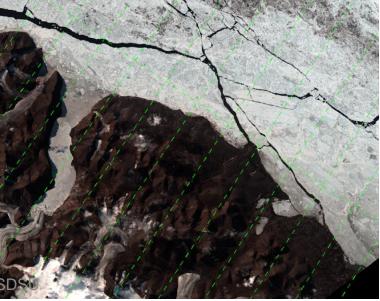
Show/Hide	Path/Row	Look Angle	Date	Select
Hide	37/244-53/1	Right 13.6	7/12/2016	•
Show	53/242-247	Right 15.4	7/12/2016	0
Show	28/245-44/2	Right 16.9	7/13/2016	0
Show	44/243-248	Right 13.2	7/13/2016	0
Show	60/241-246	Right 19.0	7/13/2016	0
Show	35/244-51/1	Right 14.1	7/14/2016	0
Show	51/242-247	Right 14.6	7/14/2016	0
Show	26/245-42/2	Right 18.0	7/15/2016	0
Show	42/244-58/1	Right 13.1	7/15/2016	0
Show	58/242-247	Right 17.8	7/15/2016	0
Show	33/245-49/2	Right 14.7	7/16/2016	0
Show	49/243-248	Right 14.0	7/16/2016	0
Show	24/246-40/3	Right 19.2	7/17/2016	0
Hide	40/244-56/1	Right 13.2	7/17/2016	0
Show	56/242-247	Right 16.8	7/17/2016	0
Show	31/245-47/2	Right 15.5	7/18/2016	0
Show	47/243-248	Right 13.6	7/18/2016	0
Hide	38/244-54/1	Right 13.5	7/19/2016	0



<- Cancel Request and Start Over | <- Change this Request

Next ->





Global ice flow speeds --- image pair feature tracking

Python-based software (PyCorr) takes two sequential L8 OLI Band 8 scenes and matches small sub-scenes of the images

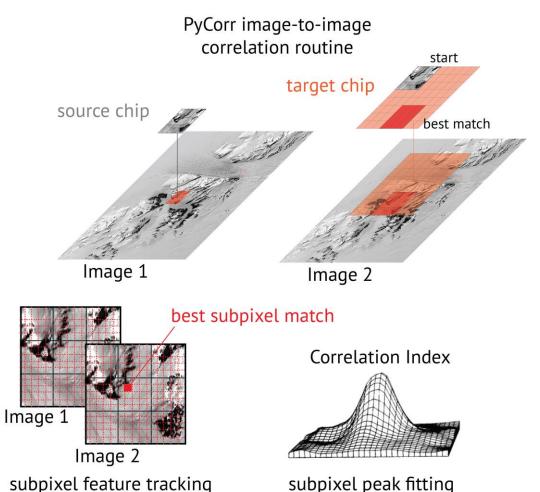
- -- image correlation algorithm;
- -- peak fitting in max correlation;
- -- sub-pixel fits of offset vector.

New code makes use of higher radiometric fidelity of L8 and high precision of L8 scene geolocation;

Image pair resolves ice motion to ~0.3 pixels displacement; geolocation ~4m.

Image-to-image cross-correlation applied to ice motion – Bindschadler and Scambos, 1991; Scambos et al., 1992; Fahnestock et al. 1993

Software name: **PyCorr** – Python Image Correlation Engine.







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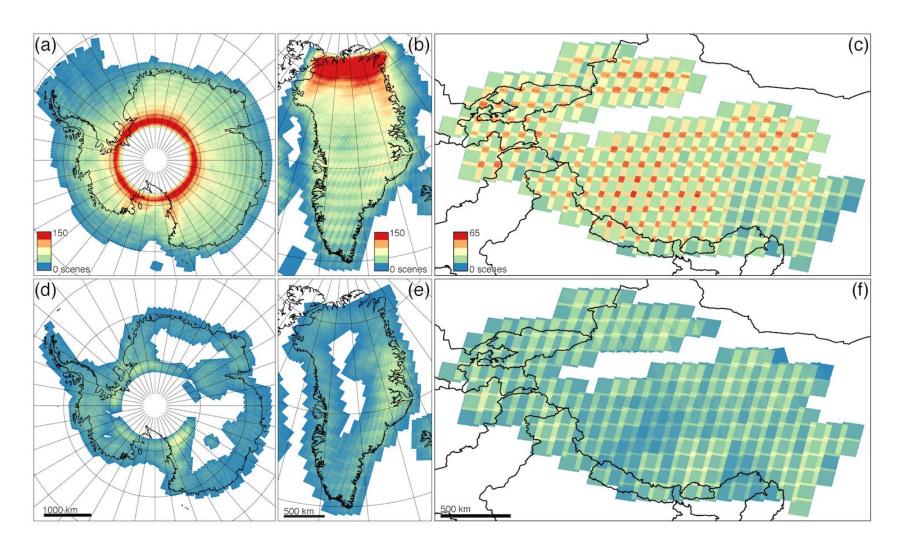
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Current map of ice speed for Antarctica

Landsat Ice Speed of Antarctica (LISA);

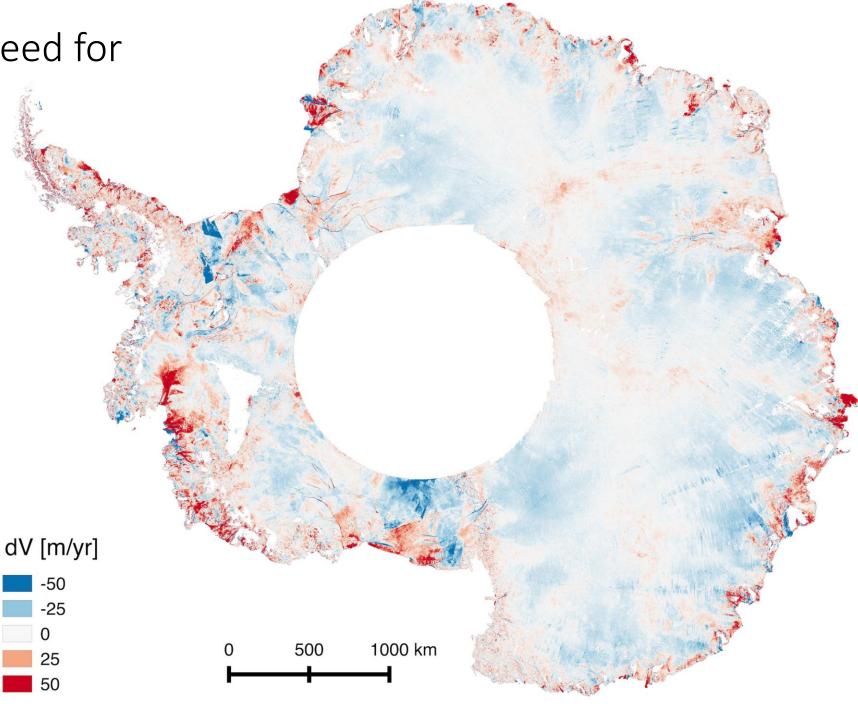
200,000+ ice **velocity** pairs

Oct 2013 - March 2015

~250 m resolution

Working toward continent-wide ice flux determination and estimate of ice mass budget;

Similar mappings in hand for Alaska, Greenland.



New project – Global Landsat Ice Velocity: GO_LIVE

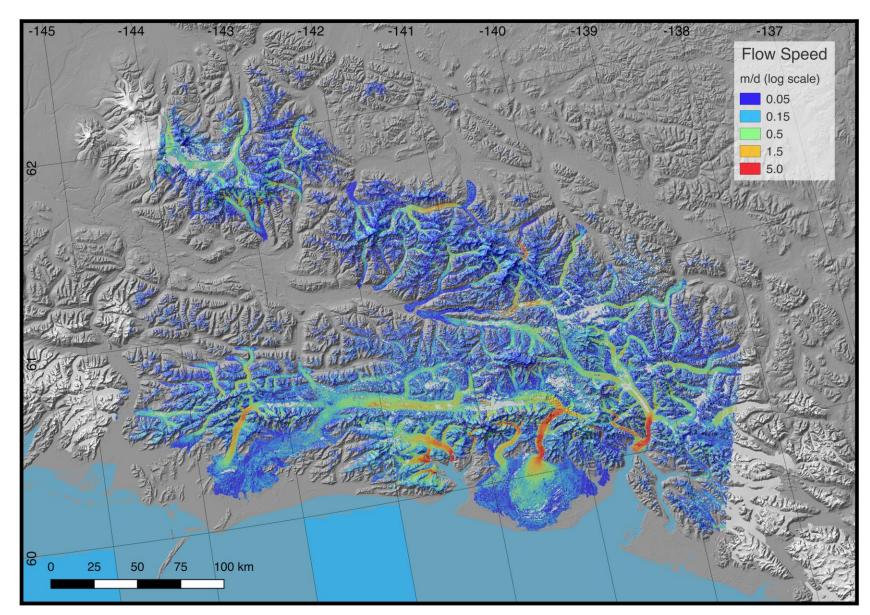
PyCorr now running on Univ. Colorado's multi-node supercomputer;

30,000 pairs per hour processing;

We will establish a processing stream that will produce ice velocities with a latency of about 1 week for global ice cover.

5 new mappings per new image

Distributed at the NSIDC data center

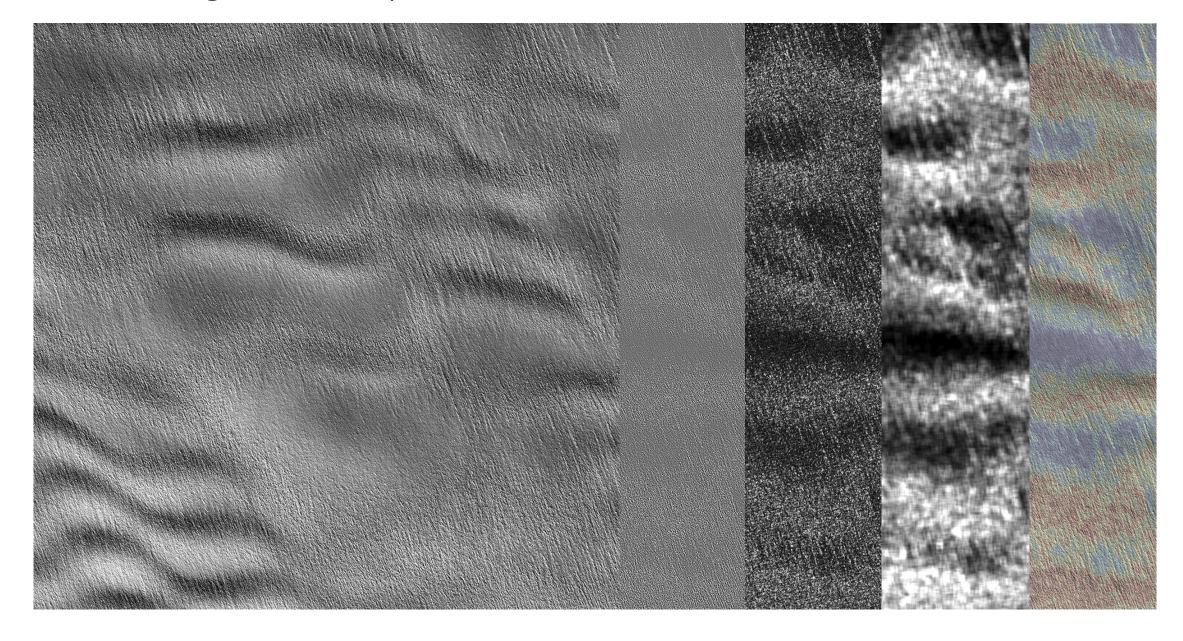


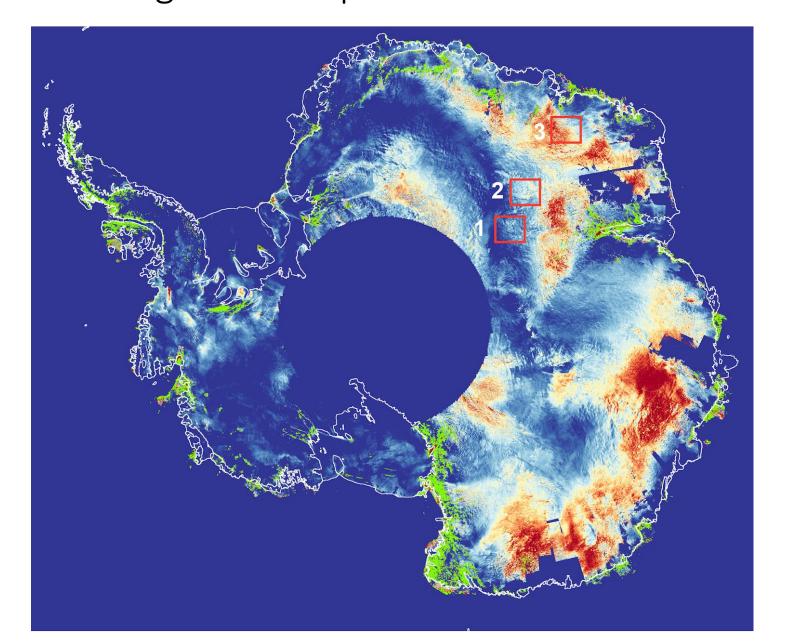


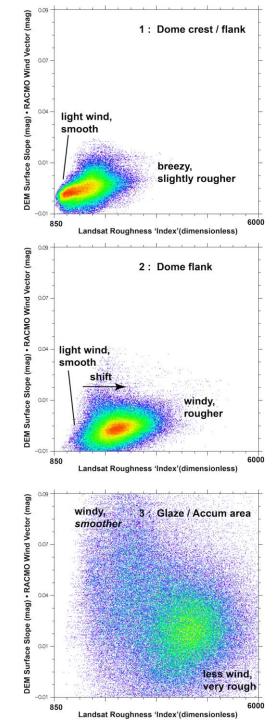










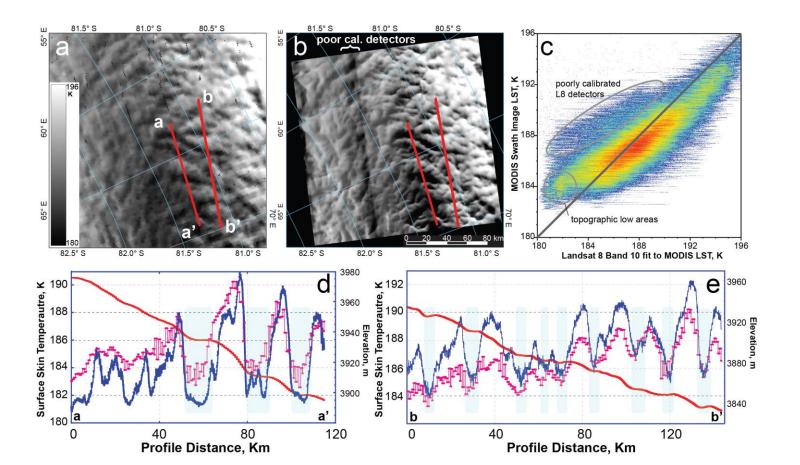


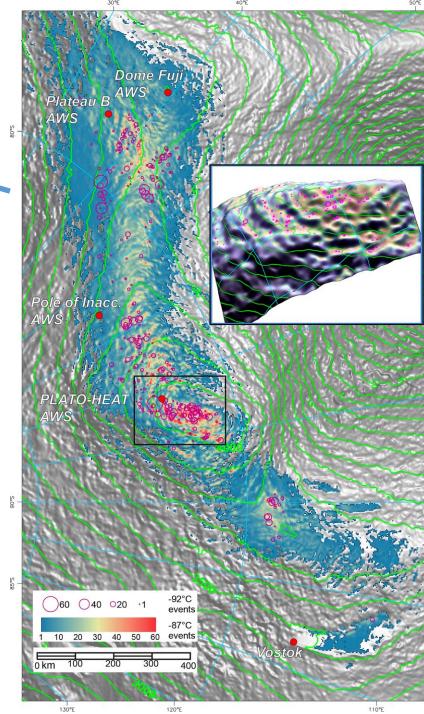
Ultra-cold winter temperatures in Antarctica

MODIS thermal emission Low temperature events, 2002 – 2014

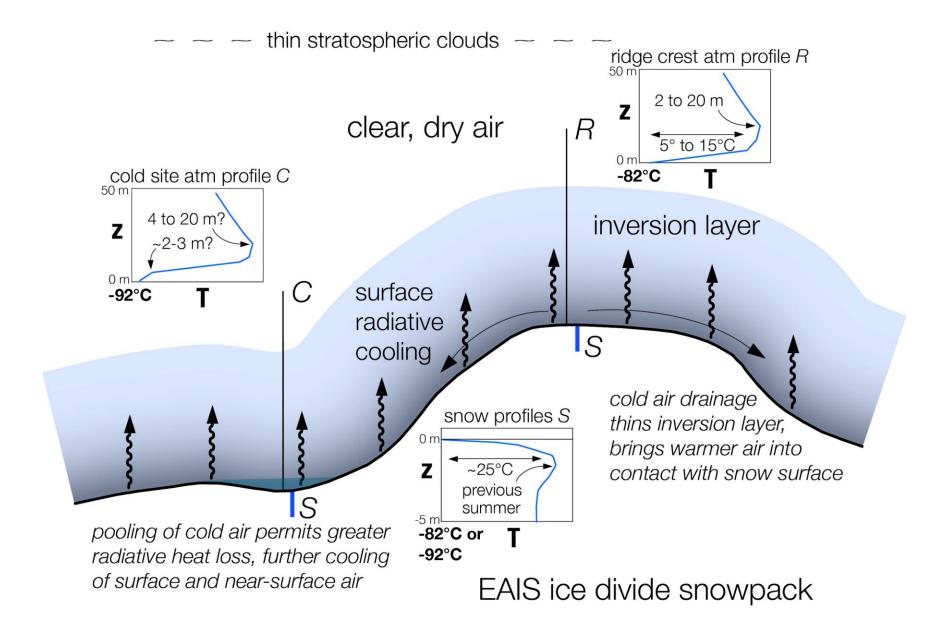
-87° C color bar (-124.6° F)

-92° C red circles (-133.6° F)





Ultra-cold winter temperatures in Antarctica - conceptual model



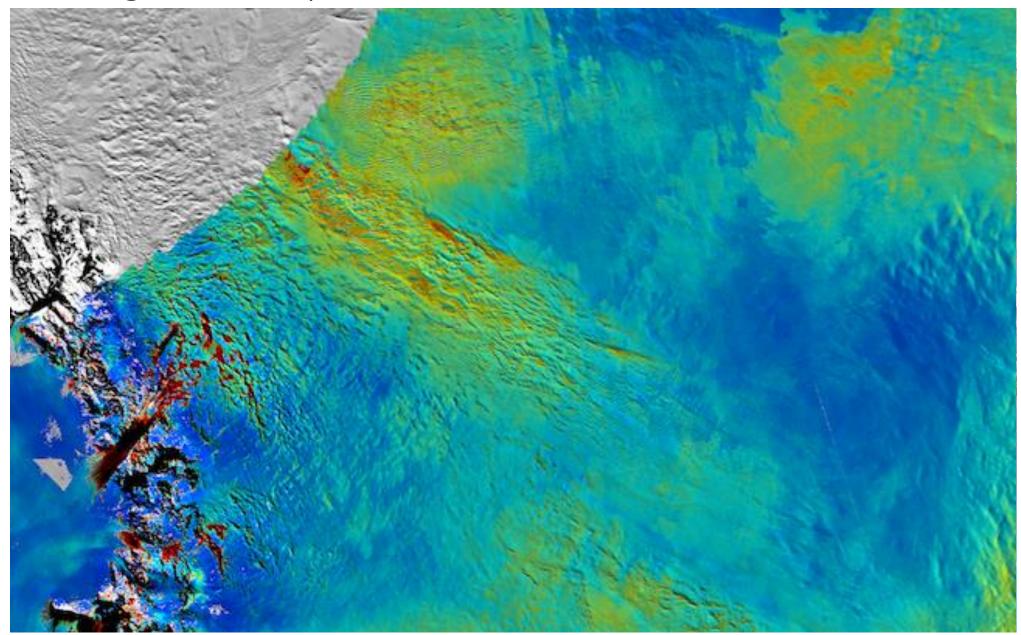
AGU 2016 session on Landsat 8 ice results

C012: Cryospheric Applications of Landsat 8 and the Landsat Record

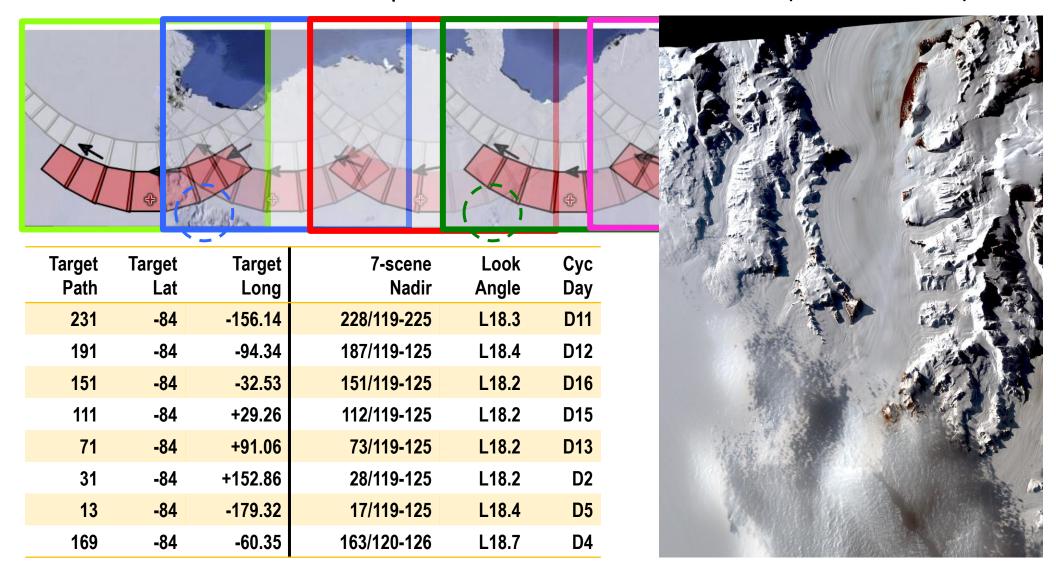
Launched in 2013 with a suite of improvements over its predecessors, Landsat 8 has sparked renewed interest in Earth observation using medium resolution imagery. In particular, high acquisition rates and 12-bit radiometry with a wider dynamic range are particularly helpful for cryospheric applications. In addition, Landsat 8 builds on an expanding and improved archive of Landsat imagery dating back to 1972. This long observational record also opens opportunities for studying environmental change. In this session, we aim to bring together contributions from a wide range of cryospheric disciplines (e.g., glaciers, ice sheets, sea ice, permafrost, seasonal snow, etc.) that highlight and discuss how Landsat 8 is moving forward our understanding of the Earth's frozen regions.

- Conveners: ;Allen Pope, Mahsa Moussavi, Andreas Kaab, Ted Scambos;
- Invited speakers: Alex Gardner, JPL, Solveg Havstad, Univ. Oslo





Antarctic Off-nadir – Scott's path to the South Pole (and more)



- assuming a ~2030 launch
- 15-meter, multispectral imaging can only be of value in this timeframe if :
 - --- radiometric resolution is exceptional (14-bit) and well calibrated
 - --- acquisition frequency is very high (4 days), with **global land +sea ice coverage**
 - --- Split-window thermal bands are included at 2x 4x spatial resolution
 - ---Geolocation should be <3 m globally.
- Key bands for snow and Ice are (prioritized): red, infrared, thermal, cirrus, green, swir 1.6μ; Keep bands and response curves as consistent as possible.
- Mission goals should emulate MODIS mission goals of the 2000-2010s.
 - --- land ice changes, ice velocity mapping
 - --- surface melting, albedo, reliable global surface reflectance product
 - --- melt lakes on ice sheets, glaciers, sea ice, tundra
 - --- snow cover, snow melt runoff, lake ice-on/ice-off;
 - --- sea ice tracking, sea ice morphology